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COMMANDERS DIGEST

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DSM WINNER—Army Chief of Staff Gen. William C. Westmoreland pins the Distinguished Service Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster) to the uniform of Gen. Frank S. Besson Jr., Commander, Army Materiel Command. The citation said Gen. Besson's leadership guided AMC from its inception in 1962 to present global responsibilities of developing, processing, storing and issuing military equipment and materiel to all Army forces.

New Manual for Courts Martial Authorized by Executive Order

A new "Manual for Courts Martial" was authorized Sept. 11 with the issuance of Executive Order 11430 by President Johnson. The new manual will be effective Jan. 1, 1969.

This new directive will supersede the old manual prescribed in 1951 when the Uniform Code of Military Justice first became effective. Most of the changes included are technical in nature, reflecting changes in military law which have occurred during the 17-year period.

These include amendments to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, decisions of the Court of Military Appeals, and decisions of the Supreme Court which have general application to the fields of criminal law.

In addition to such technical legal changes, certain changes in policy have been made to improve the operation of military justice, based on experience gained under the UCMJ and the previous manual.

The executive order stated, "This manual shall be in force and effect in the armed forces of the United States on and after January 1, 1969,

(Continued on page 3)

LBJ Repeats Stand Against Bombing Halt

President Johnson has repeated that he does not intend to halt the bombing below the 20th Parallel in Vietnam.

"Now let me make it as clear as I possibly can why we are still bombing and will continue to bomb the panhandle of North Vietnam—why reestablishing the DMZ, I think, is so critical to peace in Vietnam," the President told the 50th annual American Legion national convention in New Orleans, La.

Addressing the Legionnaires Sept. 10, the President explained his stand this way:

"In the area just below the DMZ, we and our allies have some four divisions of men and the necessary people to support them, involving more than 60,000 Americans and one division of South Vietnamese. Just behind them in the rest of I Corps are an additional 164,000 Americans and allied fighting men.

"Those close to the DMZ are subjected daily to artillery fire and the direct movement of enemy forces across that DMZ against them. All

(Continued on Page 2)

FILE YOUR INDEX

Commanders Digest for October 5 will be accompanied by an index of all issues from April 5 through Sept. 28, 1968. This alphabetically-listed index will be published every six months. It is suggested Digest issues be filed as a reference source.

President Outlines Opposition to Bombing Halt

(Continued from Page 1)

those men in I Corps are constantly subjected to a massive flow of supplies and infiltrators, and rocket fire, through the panhandle to the northern part of the battlefield.

"These are just hard, inescapable facts," the President continued, "that a Commander in Chief must face up to and confront. So what are our choices?"

First, the President said, we could invade North Vietnam with our men. We could overrun their military positions. We could throttle the supply routes in North Vietnam itself.

"This we do not wish to do," he said, "although it should be clear that the North Vietnamese do wish to invade South Vietnam, and they are doing so—although they don't want to admit it."

The President said the second choice was to withdraw our forces. "We could retreat and surrender on the installment plan, as some have suggested, by taking our men from below the DMZ, and turn over the I Corps area, that part of South Vietnam, to the North Vietnamese. This, I assure you, we shall not do.

"If we cannot take our men in, and we are not going to take our men out, it appears to me, third, that the best thing we can do is to bring our planes to bear in the panhandle across the line against the artillery, the trucks and the rocket launchers that are being fired on our men, and to bring it to bear against the enemy trucks, the enemy troops, and the enemy supplies that are coming through.

"Every secondary explosion—and there were thousands there last month —means that powder and that steel doesn't have to be brought back from South Vietnam by some American soldier in his body if it is stopped in North Vietnam."

President Johnson noted that "we are today exacting a very substantial price" from the enemy, and that patience is required. "But we are limiting his capacity," he said, "to bring weight against our forces and our allies. There is not the slightest doubt that if we should stop the bombing in the panhandle, the military capacity of the enemy to hurt our forces would greatly increase, and our casualties would skyrocket."

President Johnson told the Legionnaires that he had asked Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Cmdr. U. S. MACV, and CG, U. S. Army, Vietnam, for his viewpoint "on what would happen if I should order him to carry out the suggestion that had been made by some of our enemies abroad and some of our friends at home to stop the bombing.

"His reply was this: If you should require me to stop the bombing of North Vietnam, you would permit the enemy to increase his capability several fold in 10 days, and if he did, I would be forced to withdraw our men from that area because they could no longer stand their ground.

"I am not going to issue any order like that," the President said.

"General Abrams, and not a single field commander we have, has made that recommendation to me. I am not a prophet or speculator, but I do prophesy that some of these men who recommended it now would not do so if they were on the DMZ, and could see what our men face every day and face every night.

"Therefore," the President said, "the Commander in Chief has insisted that the bombing will not stop until we are confident that it will not lead to an increase in American casualties. That is why we have placed such emphasis on re-establishing the DMZ."

I THINK WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED—The 1,300-ton fleet tug USS Munsee prepares to tow the 45-000-ton battleship USS New Jersey during operations off the California coast just prior to New Jersey's departure for the Far East.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

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Food Product Evaluation Committee Established

A Food Product Evaluation Committee has been established by the Department of Defense Directorate for Food Service. It is a part of the directorate's continuing efforts to consolidate and standardize wherever possible common functions of the armed forces food programs.

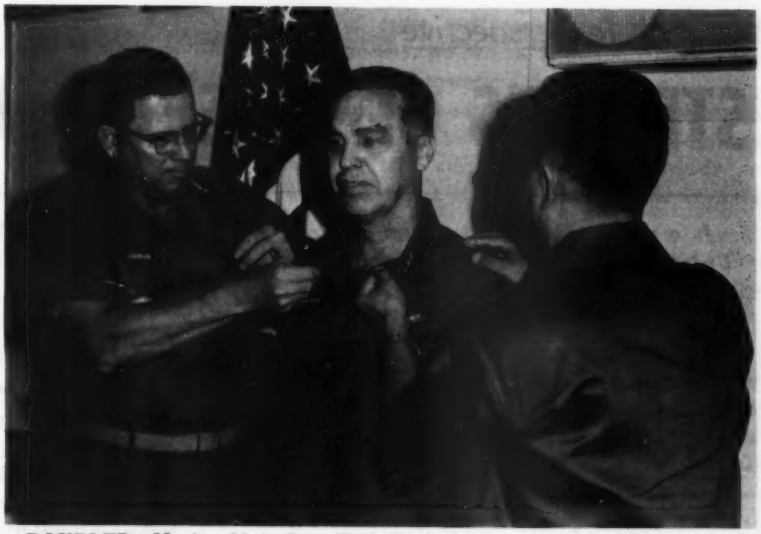
The newly-formed committee will operate under the direction of the Department of Defense Food Planning Board.

Functions of the committee include evaluation of unsolicited food items offered for use in the military feeding program by industry; evaluation of new items generated through research and development; evaluation of existing items for possible improvement in product or packaging, and coordinating on a continuing basis the programming for the introduction of new or improved food items.

In addition to the obvious benefits which will be gained by the military services through centralization of these functions, the food industry for the first time will have a single central point of contact, for submitting proposed food items for possible military feeding.

The Defense Department said this point of contact for these food suppliers is the Chairman, Department of Defense Food Planning Board Product Evaluation Committee, 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago, Ill. On request this committee will provide particulars on procedures for submission of items for evaluation. The functions of this committee do not, however, include the evaluation of food items required by the service commissaries, exchanges, clubs and recreational activities.

The new committee membership includes representatives from the Army Food Service Center in Chicago; the Navy Subsistence Office in Washington; the Air Force Services Office in Philadelphia; the Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington; U. S. Army Natick Laboratories in Massachusetts; the Defense Personnel Support Center in Philadelphia, and representatives of the military surgeons general.



DOUBLED—Marine Maj. Gen. Earl E. Anderson, (center) Chief of Staff, III Marine Amphibious Force, is promoted to his present rank by his commander, Lt. Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr., (left) and Lt. Gen. Hoang Xuan Lam, RVN Army, CG of the northernmost tactical zone of South Vietnam.

Courts Martial Manual (Continued from Page 1)

with respect to all court-martial processes taken on and after that date.

"Nothing contained in this manual shall be construed to invalidate any investigation, trial in which arraignment has been had, or other action begun prior to January 1, 1969; and any such investigation, trial, or other action begun prior to that date may be completed in accordance with the applicable laws, executive order, and regulations pertaining to the various armed forces in the same manner and with the same effect as if this manual had not been prescribed.

"Nothing contained in this manual shall be construed to make punishable any act done or omitted prior to the effective date of this manual which was not punishable when done or omitted. The maximum punishment for an offense committed prior to January 1, 1969, shall not exceed the applicable limit in effect at the time of the commission of such offense."

Some examples of the changes to be made in the new manual are:

Maximum Punishment Values—the values upon which the maximum punishments in larceny type offenses have been increased to $50 and $100 from the former $20 and $50. Except for the offense of arson, a dishonorable discharge and confinement for more than a year may be adjudged only in those cases involving more than $100.

Taking of Depositions—Any deposition or sworn testimony taken outside of court must be taken in the presence of the accused and his counsel before it may be admitted into evidence at his trial.

In addition, the new manual will prescribe the admissibility of written translations of machine, electronic and coded official records. Without this rule, it would be necessary to call an expert witness in every case involving such records to translate them for the court. This is considered important as more civilian and military records are converted to automatic data processing systems.

The manual will also incorporate the requirement that, prior to interrogation, an accused or suspect be advised that he has a right to consult with counsel and permits him to have counsel present at the interrogation.

America In Perspective

STRESSES OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE

In a recent address to the Overseas Press Club, Under Secretary of State Nicholas deB. Katzenbach compared internal problems of the United States with those of other countries.

He pointed out that the U.S. is in the midst of social and economic change, and that many of the difficulties Americans are having as a nation "stem directly from our efforts to live up to our idealism and to build a better society."

Below are excerpts from his address.

The United States is a large, modern, complicated, and diverse nation. It is growing rapidly and is in the midst of difficult social and economic changes. Some of them, like the process of urbanization, exist elsewhere, too. Others, like the racial and ethnic integration we are undergoing, exist on a comparable scale in few countries.

We are, on the whole, making progress in overcoming our problems. We are melding together the most heterogeneous population of any nation and mostly it is being done quietly and peacefully. But in so major a process there is bound to be some friction and some spillover.

Not a "Wild West" Mentality

In trying to understand the causes of violence in America today, I think we can begin by dismissing puerile theories about the continuation of a kind of "frontier" or "wild west" mentality. We do not think of ourselves as living on a "frontier." We conceive of ourselves as a rational, reasonable law-abiding people and by and large we are. That is why we get so upset in the face of violence. We are terribly disappointed in ourselves when it happens and we let everyone know about our disappointment.

We are, moreover, an idealistic people. We are disturbed when what we see about us in our country does not live up to our ideals. Since working to correct those inequities in our society that do not match our concept of ourselves is seldom an easy task—frustration, anger, and violence are inevitable byproducts.

I think we can be proud that many of the difficulties we are having as a nation, and many of the splits and clashes that divide us, stem directly from our efforts to live up to our idealism and to build a better society.

Racial Conflicts

The racial conflicts that have marred our recent history are far more to our credit than would be neglected racial injustices or allowed segregation which persisted for so long. It is for me a matter of pride that this country has in the past few years faced up to a problem which has stained our every ideal. And as a result, we have begun a major revolution with respect to the Negro and the disadvantaged in our society.

We have undertaken a major social upheaval—one which we knew would bring with it much grief and turmoil—rather than tolerate the continuance of institutionalized injustices throughout our country.

We were aware that one could not upset the mores and the institutions of large segments of our population without very unsettling results. Many of our people have strong and ingrained prejudices—they may be wrong but they are there. But we were willing, even at the risk of considerable anger and frustration, to work to change them.

Minorities in Other Countries

In any country where a substantial minority lives among citizens of another race, the potential for trouble exists. Countries with homogeneous populations don't have competition or conflicts of interest among races or groups with different—and occasionally incompatible—cultural backgrounds. Some other countries have tried to solve the problem by inviting the minority to leave. Some have split their country in two. Some have prohibited immigration of any minority race. And in some countries, a minority rules by depriving the majority of all its rights as citizens and human beings.

In the United States, we are working to overcome, at great cost and with great difficulty, the legacy of a past which violated our best concepts of ourselves. The important thing is not the difficulties which we encounter and will encounter along the way. The important thing is that we are doing it.

We have in these United States lived under a dual system of justice, one for the white, one for the black, in too many states in too many circumstances. The instruments of violence were used in support of a so-called law and order which, by every ethical standard I know, was far more reprehensible than any riot I have ever seen or heard about. I do not condone violence, but I find it far less morally reprehensible in protest against injustice than when used as the instrument of injustice in the name of law and order.

Why We Take Chances

Law and order by itself is not hard to bring about. Any society, if it is willing to be repressive enough, if it is willing to tolerate enough injustices or let them fester beneath what looks like a tranquil surface, can have law and order. But it is law and order *and* a just society that we are attempting to work toward in the United States.

That is why we have been willing to risk these considerable threats to our domestic tranquility. That is why we operate under restraints which protect the rights of the individual citizen even though they sometimes hinder our law enforcement.

And that is why, also, we take chances in our political system and in our political institutions that some other countries do not take. We have protections of free speech that allow even the rankest demagogues to inflame passions.

There are many other things about our society which we value and believe desirable, but which produce a fallout of difficulties or frustration. We are rich and advanced in terms of technology, institutions, and organizations. Many problems that go along with affluence have occurred here that have not yet come to others.

Organized crime, for instance, feeds on affluence. Racketeering, fraud, embezzlement and all kinds of other white collar crimes flourish only where there is wealth. Credit cards—just to take one example—provide a whole new category of violations and law-breaking that exists in few other places. Auto thefts flourish most where the most autos are.

A Mobile Society

We are also a highly mobile and socially and economically nonstructured society. This is something we value because it allows those who are creative, able and hard-working to reach the top. Competition is open in a wider range of areas and success is highly prized. A highly mobile society, we believe, is not only more democratic but has great economic advantages.

We are, in addition, a rather proud people, with strong notions of equality and individual justice. Americans are not inclined to take any nonsense from anybody, no matter where he might stand in the economic or social hierarchy.

For this combination of benefits we pay a price. They produce stresses that do not exist in societies with rigid lines of class or caste.

The individual's desire to succeed may be stronger than his capacity or knowledge of how to do it. His ambitions are subject to many frustrations, and if he is, or regards himself, as a failure, they can become acute. This kind of problem is accentuated further among recently arrived ethnic groups where social controls, formerly exercised by strong family ties, have broken up without yet being replaced by a broader social consciousness and self-discipline.

The American Negro, whose family structure was shattered by slavery, and has not yet been reformed, has a similar problem. As the gradual process of ethnic and racial assimilation continues—and with the passage of time and the equalization brought by better educational opportunities—these problems will hopefully diminish.

No Monopoly on Conflict

Those of us who have thought of the post-World War II period as one of peace were unduly shocked by the Mydans' book on *The Violent Peace.* They subtitle it *A Report on Wars in the Post-war World.*

It makes one stop and think. And—hopefully—it will make one think and stop.

Yet I was impressed—and perhaps comforted—by the violence in which the U.S. had no part. It is at least a reminder—if we need one—that the U.S. has no monopoly on tragedy, on conflict, on violence.

China—the revolution of 1945-49 and the violent disorder which is going on today; the Civil War in Greece; the insurgency in Malaysia; the revolt in Algeria; the 1956 revolt in Hungary; the Middle East; Cyprus; Indonesia. One could go on at length.

Whatever conclusion one comes to it cannot be that violence is a peculiarly American institution. If it has here a unique quality of its own it is that the national government is fundamentally on the side of revolution and not opposed to it.

State Dept. Releases "Sphere of Influence" Memo

The Department of State released the following memorandum "for the press" Aug. 23:

"The United States Government has never entered into any 'sphere of influence' agreements or understandings with anyone anywhere in the world. There has been no discussion of any such idea in connection with recent developments in Czechoslovakia nor has any government attempted to elicit from the United States Government any such understanding.

"Any suggestion that the United States, tacitly or otherwise, gave the Soviet Union to understand that the United States would be indifferent to the action which the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact countries have now taken in Czechoslovakia is malicious and totally without foundation.

"It has been intimated that the Yalta Conference led to the creation of 'spheres of influence' in Europe. In fact the Yalta Conference, held from February 1-11, 1945, between the U. S., Great Britain and the Soviet Union, did not in any manner either directly or indirectly deal with any questions of spheres of influence. The entire record of the conference, without exception, was published by the U. S. Government in 1955 in the series 'Foreign Relations of the United States Diplomatic Papers—The Conferences of Malta and Yalta'. The U. S. attitude toward spheres of influence is set forth in a pre-conference paper on pages 103-108.

"The zonal agreements, which merely delimited the zones of military occupation of Germany and Austria, were officially and finally confirmed at Yalta. The zonal limits were actually negotiated in the meetings of the European Advisory Council and were submitted to governments in November 1944. The only substantial change affecting the zones was the final Soviet consent, under British and American urgings, to agree to granting a zone to France and a place for her on the Control Council for Germany.

"The document adopted by the conference, entitled 'Declaration of Liberated Europe,' a document of American origin, had as its purpose the exact opposite of spheres of influence in Eastern Europe, since it provided for tripartite participation in the Control Councils and administration of former enemy states in Europe."

TROOPING THE LINE—Adm. Kwang-Kai Lui (right), visiting commander in chief, Combined Services, Republic of China, troops the line at a United Nations Command Honor Guard ceremony at Seoul, Korea. Providing escort for the Admiral are Lt. Gen. Robert J. Friedman, chief of staff, UNC, and 1st Lt. Thomas J. Donley, Honor Guard platoon leader.

Allowances Raised For Vets Traveling To VA Hospitalization

President Johnson signed an Executive Order Sept. 9 raising travel allowances for veterans who must travel to receive Veterans Administration hospitalization.

Six cents a mile will be paid to veterans authorized government travel to and from VA hospitals. The rate was five cents until the change was ordered on recommendation of Administrator of Veterans Affairs William J. Driver.

The maximum amount per day, when a night's lodging and three or more meals are involved, was raised by administrative action by the VA, from $9 to $12, for those who elect to be reimbursed on an actual expense basis.

Government transportation may be authorized for a veteran needing treatment for a service-connected disability. Ordinarily the allowance covers only travel to the nearest suitable hospital and return to his home on completion of treatment.

Gen. Westmoreland Praises Fighting Men in Vietnam

General William C. Westmoreland, Army Chief of Staff, sees our fighting man in Vietnam as a tough, determined professional in battle one day and a compassionate friend to the Vietnamese people the next.

He is a fighter, a thinker, and a doer. He has seen—at firsthand—communist subversion and aggression at work; he has acquired a deeper appreciation of the importance of freedom, the general said.

"So I can confidently predict that from his ranks in the years ahead will come the confident, alert, intelligent citizens and leaders who will make this nation's future greater than its past," Gen. Westmoreland told the national convention of Disabled American Veterans.

"I say this, first of all," the General said, "because I sincerely believe he will be much more willing and able to assume his role in his community than when he left. He is everything that you and I were at the end of World War II and the Korean War —and much more.

"Apparently he began to grow where you and I left off. He has learned from our experience, from our schools and communities, and from organized groups of patriotic citizens like yours.

"He has matured rapidly. He is a man in the fullest sense of the word. He will be seriously searching for something solid, and he'll be reluctant to accept anything less. He has seen and learned to appreciate the plight of the oppressed. He knows what communist aggression looks like head-on."

Speaking from his experience in Vietnam (Commanding General U.S. Army Vietnam and Commander U.S. MACV), Gen. Westmoreland said "you will find this new veteran is an 'integrated' citizen. He has worked, lived, and fought alongside of men of every race, color, and creed. He may be a Negro who was dragged from the battlefield by a white medic. He may be a white soldier who lived to see another dawn only because of the Negro who threw himself upon an exploding grenade. He may be a protestant who was counselled and led in prayer by a Catholic chaplain.

"But whether black, or white, protestant, Catholic or Jew, this new veteran will not settle for the usual answers and parochial images that were once acceptable as civilized conversation. He will find it hard to accept many of the misunderstandings associated with the social changes taking place within our—within his—country."

The Army's new chief of staff said he didn't want to be misunderstood because of his enthusiasm for the Vietnam veteran. "Like all veterans," he said, "he is tired and anxious to forget a lot of the things that he has experienced. He will not necessarily be an articulate spokesman for the things that he may feel deeply in his heart."

Gen. Westmoreland said that he had earlier expressed the conviction that the Vietnam veteran would be much more willing to assume his role in his community than when he left. Explaining why he believed this to be true, the general said:

"He has been the member of a professional, businesslike Army—professional because of its ability not because of its composition. The U.S. Army today has a dignity; it is an efficient and progressive organization. It is also a proud organization—proud of its men and of its achievements.

"Its leadership, past and present, has worked tirelessly to give it a moral tone worthy of the quality of youth that is entrusted to its ranks. Leadership throughout the chain of command, assisted by chaplains and professional medical and legal people, has an all-pervasive paternal interest in these sons of yours. As only one example of this interest, here are two of the fifteen instructions that I issued as guidance for all commanders in Vietnam.

"1—Make the welfare of your men your primary concern with special attention to mess, mail and medical care.

"2—Maintain an alert 'open door' policy on complaints and a sensitivity to detection and correction of malpractices."

General Westmoreland said he believed the sons, the Army, and our Nation, have all gained from "this relatively brief but important association."

"The American veteran has always been a first-rate citizen. The men now coming out of cur Armed Forces—over two thousand a day—will, with your help, make the best citizens yet."

AIR FORCE CROSS—Lt. Col. Robert W. Smith receives the Air Force Cross from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell in Pentagon ceremonies. Col. Smith distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism as an F-105 pilot in Southeast Asia on Nov. 19, 1967. He led a strike force of twenty-four aircraft to the vicinity of Hanoi for the initial strike on an important military target.

Navy Will Release 30,000 Enlistees Early

The Department of Defense announced Sept. 13 that about 30,000 two-year Navy enlistees will be released early from active duty between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 1968.

The action is being taken to save approximately $48 million as a part of the Navy's program to cut spending in fiscal year 1969 as required by law.

Ship and aircraft squadron inactivations under PL 90-364 plus other administrative actions made necessary by this law make the action possible.

Navy personnel affected will be those serving in a program known as "two by six contract," which requires two years' active duty in a six-year enlistment.

However, it was pointed out that there will be some exceptions to the early out policy that will require certain individuals to complete their two years' active duty obligation. This will include "two by six" contract enlistees who are serving in Vietnam.

Other categories not affected will include: men assigned to ships and units serving in the Sixth and Seventh Fleets or who are deploying with these units prior to completion of the requisite active duty; Those who are in a medical or disciplinary status; those who have an active duty agreement to serve more than two years; and hospital corpsmen.

Personnel who are eligible will begin being released starting on Oct. 1. Those who have completed 18 months of their active duty will be released on that date. Those completing 15 months of their commitment will be released in November followed by those with 12 months of active duty in December.

It also was announced that individuals released early under this program will be subject to recall only under the same circumstances as "two by six" personnel who have completed two years of active duty. The policy will not affect their eligibility for earned veterans rights and benefits.

About two-thirds of the individuals who are eligible for early release are non-rated personnel. Generally, the remaining personnel are those who do not possess critical skills or specialized Navy training.

The result of this program will be a decrease in the total enlisted strength of the Navy to 663,000 by the end of December. But there will be a gradual increase to the authorized level of 687,917 by the end of the fiscal year.

CLOSE CALL—RAdm. Kenneth L. Veth, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, and Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, (right) Chief of Naval Operations, examine the remains of a communist-made 122mm rocket which exploded within 30 feet of the house occupied by Adm. Veth in June. Adm. Moorer met with Adm. Veth during a recent tour of Navy combat forces in Vietnam.

Six Air Reserve Squadrons Also Released from Duty

Six Naval Air Reserve squadrons called to active duty Jan. 26, 1968, will be released to inactive duty "in the near future," the Department of Defense said Sept. 16.

The units were called to active duty immediately after the seizure of the USS Pueblo to improve the aviation strength of the Navy and to provide additional resources to meet contingencies that might have arisen.

The Defense Department said that since current Navy commitments can be met by regular air units, the Navy decided to release the reserve air units to inactive status.

The processes necessary to transfer the squadrons to ready reserve status began Sept. 16. The squadrons are expected to move from their present operational fleet bases to their respective reserve air stations in the near future. It is estimated that all actions will be completed by Nov. 1, 1968.

About 600 naval reserve officers and men are involved in the squadron inactivation. In order to protect the interests of the individuals concerned, various options will be offered to give maximum flexibility in making personal plans. These options include: release to inactive duty; retention on active duty; or transfer to regular Navy status if eligible.

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